

INI-0031-D3

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 -- 11 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1, 6 -- 8, and 11, have been cancelled, without prejudice, Claims 2, 4, 5, 9, and 10, have been amended, and Claim 12 has been added, leaving Claims 2 -- 5, 9, 10, and 12, for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment.

Claims 2 and 5 have been amended to correct dependency.

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to further claim the invention.

Claim 9 has been amended merely to place it in independent form.

Claim 10 has been amended for clarity.

Claim 12 has been added to further claim the invention.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments and new claim. Since all remaining claims depend from an allowable independent claim and since the overall number of claims is less than that considered in the prior response, consideration of the amendment and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9 and 10 have been deemed allowable, but objected to as depending upon a rejected base claim. Claim 9 has been placed in independent form. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 -- 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,868,080 to Wyler et al. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice, and Claims 2 and 3 depend from allowable Claim 9, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 4 -- 8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over Wyler et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,159,681 to Vandament. Claims 6 -- 8 and 11 have

INI-0031-D3

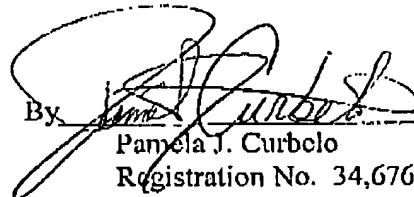
been cancelled, and Claims 4 and 5 depend from allowable Claim 9, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Final Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejections and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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